

Mississippi Baptist Convention

Theme: "A suffering world; a sufficient God"
(II Cor. 3:5)

Tentative program
Nov. 14-16, 1983

First Session
Monday Afternoon - Nov. 14

- 1:20 Prelude Instrumentalists
Eva Hart, pianist
Bobbie Butler, organist
- 1:30 Convention Called to Order James Yates
- 1:35 Call to Worship Eric McNair
- Congregational Praise R. Fred Selby Jr.
Scripture-Colossians 2 Ken Anderson
Prayer Eric McNair
- 1:45 Message in Song Eric McNair
- 1:55 Organization of Convention
Recognition and Seating of Messengers
Report of Committee on Order of Business Joe McKeever
Welcome to Jackson Earl Craig Jr.
Congregational Praise Bill Davis
- 2:10 Bible Treasure Helen Jean Parks
- 2:30 Business Session
Report of Committee on Committees George F. Lee
Report of Committee on Constitution and Bylaws
Presentation of 1984 Budget
- 3:00 Congregational Praise Bill Davis
- 3:05 Testimony Keith Cating
- 3:15 Introduction of New Workers in State Earl Kelly
- 3:25 Message in Song Sanctuary Choir, FBC of Yazoo City
- Special Presentation
- 3:45 President's Address James F. Yates
- 4:15 Benediction

Second Session
Monday Night - Nov. 14

- 6:50 Prelude Singing Churchmen Handbells
- 7:00 Call to Worship Dan Hall
- Congregational Praise Mrs. Sandra S. Gunn
Scripture - II Corinthians 12 Ken Gilburth
Prayer Helen Jean Parks
- 7:10 Bible Treasure Mose Dangerfield
- 7:25 "Developing Believers" Mose Dangerfield
- 7:30 Recognition of Missionaries
Home Robert Upchurch
Foreign Mississippi Singing Churchmen
Chaplain Robert Upchurch
- 7:45 Testimony Robert Upchurch
- 7:55 Message in Song Mississippi Singing Churchmen
- 8:10 State Convention Program
- 9:00 Benediction
Reception

Third Session
Tuesday Morning - Nov. 15

- 8:50 Prelude Brass Ensemble-Mississippi College
(John Hanberry, Dir.)
- 9:00 Call to Worship Barry Hardy
- Congregational Praise George Steward
Scripture - II Corinthians 3 George Steward
Prayer George Steward
- 9:10 Message in Song

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Baptists will fill gap for Olympics emergencies

By Todd Turner

LOS ANGELES (BP)—Southern Baptists are setting up a hotline and massive network of volunteers to help an estimated 775,000 visitors expected to attend the 1984 Olympics July 28-August 12.

Need for the project became apparent after the Olympic organizing committee made it clear they are working only to stage the Olympic games and take care of the athletes, not to help spectators and tourists with emergencies.

Whether it be reporting a stolen wallet or finding a trustworthy mechanic to repair the family car, volunteers of the Southern Baptist-sponsored Summer Games Ministries plan to offer that helping hand.

Frank Carey, member of St. John's Baptist Church and coordinator of SGM's visitor relations task group, predicts Baptist volunteers working round the clock will be able to meet

almost any need within the 200-mile radius of Olympic events.

To let visitors know where help is available, Carey plans to rent billboards and distribute pamphlets on the streets. Literature also will be placed in all area churches.

When a visitor contacts the ministry, they won't receive "a pile of literature and be sent on their way" as will be the procedure of some other helping agencies, he said. Instead, he sees volunteers "taking them by the hand and helping them in a Christian way rather than a bureaucratic way."

"One of the main ideas behind the ministry is to evangelize by meeting needs while offering local church members a way to minister to visitors right in their backyards," Carey concluded.

(Turner is a Mission Service Corps volunteer serving with the Summer Games Ministries.)

Ovation, witness follow safe airborne delivery

By Orville Scott

DALLAS (BP) — Texas Baptist State Missions Director Charles McLaughlin preaches often on the "new birth," but he didn't expect to encounter it first hand.

McLaughlin was flying to an association meeting and the airliner had just taken off from Love Field, Dallas. He heard a woman cry out. He looked back to see stewardesses helping a woman in labor.

They laid her on some blankets nearby and asked for a doctor. There was none.

But Baptist nurses Audrey Lowe, of Texas Avenue Baptist Church, League City, and Irene Townsend of South Main Baptist Church, Houston, stepped forward as the plane turned back to Love Field.

"I could see they were doing everything possible," said McLaughlin, "so I bowed my head and prayed for them."

It was extremely difficult," said Lowe. "The mother was dehydrated, and the baby was born limp as a rag. It was a tense moment, and there was no specialized medical equipment."

Fortunately, Lowe had been a delivery room specialist. She turned the baby upside down and gently massaged its trachea until the blockage bubbled out and the baby cried and began breathing.

The 18-year old mother spoke limited English and seemed to need financial help; so, her fellow passengers took up an offering of \$323 and all signed a pad wishing her and her baby well.

With their patients safely delivered to a medical team at Love Field, the nurses reboarded the plane to be greeted by a rousing ovation from their fellow passengers.

"Let's hear it for Jesus," responded Lowe. "Doesn't the Lord provide? Where else would you find on the same plane a delivery specialist and a pediatric specialist?"

"She (Lowe) was so calm and efficient that it seemed all in a day's work for her," said McLaughlin, "but in a short period of time, she not only delivered a baby; she delivered the love of Jesus to a receptive audience."

The experience was deeply meaningful for Lowe. She and her husband, Charles, have been ministered to by Baptists from several churches following the death of their 21-year-old son in a motorcycle accident.

She believes God placed her in the right place at the right time to save at least one life and to give back some of the love she has received.

(Scott writes for the Texas Baptist convention.)

Committee nominations announced

These recommendations have been made from the Committee on Committees, Mississippi Baptist Convention. George F. Lee, chairman; Mrs. Carolyn Kee, John Brock, Gus Merritt, and Wayne Gullett. They are to be voted on during the convention.

Resolutions Committee: James Street, Bill Baker, Mrs. Billy Williams, Terrell Suggs, Joel Haire, Joel Ray, Russell Bush, Billy Murphy.

Order of Business: J. W. Brister and Gordon Harold Sansing, three year term; George McFadin, and Larry Kennedy, two year term; John Armistead and Bob Hanvey, one year term.

Committee on Nominations: Bartis Harper, David Perry, A. G. McCoy, William P. Smith III, Walter Yeldell.

Committee on Constitution and By-Laws: Mrs. Charles Tyler, James Richardson, Ken Marler, Tim Rayborn, John Allen.

Committee on Time, Place, and Preacher: Ed McDaniel, Fred Robertson, Jackie Hamilton, Odis Henderson, Larry Fields.

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: Bruce Hill and Owen Lusk, three year term; Robert Jackson and Dan Thompson, two year term; Tom Hudson and Odis Henderson, one year term.

Brotherhood sets philosophy, awards program

By Mike Davis

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)—Trustees of the Brotherhood Commission adopted a new Brotherhood statement of philosophy, approved a national speakout program for Royal Ambassadors, and elected new officers during the Commission's semiannual meeting in Memphis Oct. 20-22.

The philosophy statement, the work of a select committee to study Brotherhood work through the year 2000, includes the purpose of Brotherhood and lists ways the purpose is accomplished.

Helping churches involve men and boys in missions is the purpose. It is expressed in missions activities, missions study, missions support, personal experience in witness and ministry, and giving and praying to support persons involved in missions.

Southern Baptist comedian, Jerry Clower of Yazoo City, has endorsed the RA speakout program. One RA each year will receive the RA missions speakout national Jerry Clower award. The award will be given to the RA judged to have written and presented the best RA speech of the year.

The national winner will be given an expense paid trip to the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting, a \$500 scholarship funded personally by Brotherhood Commission trustees, and

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The

Baptist Record

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JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1983

Volume CVII, Number 39

Court of Appeals

State liquor ad ban held constitutional

The Fifth Circuit of the United States Court of Appeals this week upheld Mississippi's ban on liquor and wine advertising.

Incorporating two earlier cases involving a number of publication and broadcast media against the Mississippi Tax Commission and against the city of Oxford, the Fifth Circuit voted 8-5 to allow the state to continue its ban on liquor and wine advertising originating within the state.

The court ruled that though concrete evidence cannot be shown, the state has sufficient reason to believe that advertising and consumption of alcohol are linked.

Though plaintiffs denied such linkage, the court noted, "It is beyond our

ability to understand why huge sums of money would be devoted to the promotion of sales of liquor without expected results, or continue without realized results."

A 1966 Mississippi law reannounced a state policy of prohibition except where voting districts take themselves out of the prohibition. Related to this stance, the court remarked that "Mississippi does assert a substantial interest, which the state ascribes to be 'safeguarding the health, safety and general welfare of its citizens by controlling the artificial stimulation of liquor sales and consumption created by the advertising of liquor.' Whatever the medicinal or social value for those who use alcohol moderately, alcohol

abuse takes an enormous toll from society and the lives of many people."

The Tax Commission developed rules which included the ban on alcohol advertising.

(Continued on page 3)

Missionary women leave; husbands stay in Grenada

SEVIERVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—While heavily armed Cuban troops roamed their Grenada neighborhood, Southern Baptist missionaries stayed on the floor with the lights out to make it look like no one was home during the recent invasion of the Caribbean island.

Charlotte Davis, one of two Southern Baptist missionaries who caught the last U.S. military airlift out of Grenada Oct. 28, told Baptist Press the Cubans were seeking refuge and supplies.

Mrs. Davis, Robin Eberhardt, and her son, David, left their husbands in Grenada when they returned to the United States. However, they immediately bought tickets to return to the island Nov. 7 if commercial flights are restored by then, Davis said.

The return could be further delayed if Cuban resisters still hiding in the mountains, meaning a trip from the airport to their homes would be unsafe, she added.

Five minutes before the last helicopter was scheduled to take off from their neighborhood her husband

packed her bag and urged her to leave, Mrs. Davis said.

Carter Davis and Michael Eberhardt stayed to continue contact with Grenadian Baptists and to evaluate the needs for disaster relief following the invasion.

The women said the missionaries had felt the prayers of Southern Baptists throughout the 10-day ordeal—even before the invasion by international troops brought the situation to the attention of most of the world.

The first hints of the Oct. 14 coup came through word of mouth rumblings of trouble in the government, and then from radio broadcasts criticizing former Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, Eberhardt said. That Sunday, during a regularly scheduled association meeting and during their church services, Grenadian Baptists had special prayer for the country.

On Oct. 19 people filled St. George's for a mass demonstration in favor of Bishop but word filtered out he had been shot. His death was confirmed at 8 p.m. that day and a 24-hour-a-day "shoot on sight" curfew was imposed.

The two Southern Baptist missionary couples learned that several pastors and Baptist church members risked death to gather for church services on Oct. 23 despite the curfew.

During the curfew many Grenadians experienced physical hunger, she said. Most have no refrigeration and generally go to the markets and stores every day. When they were not allowed to shop, they were forced to go without food.

When the military tribunal realized the people were becoming desperate

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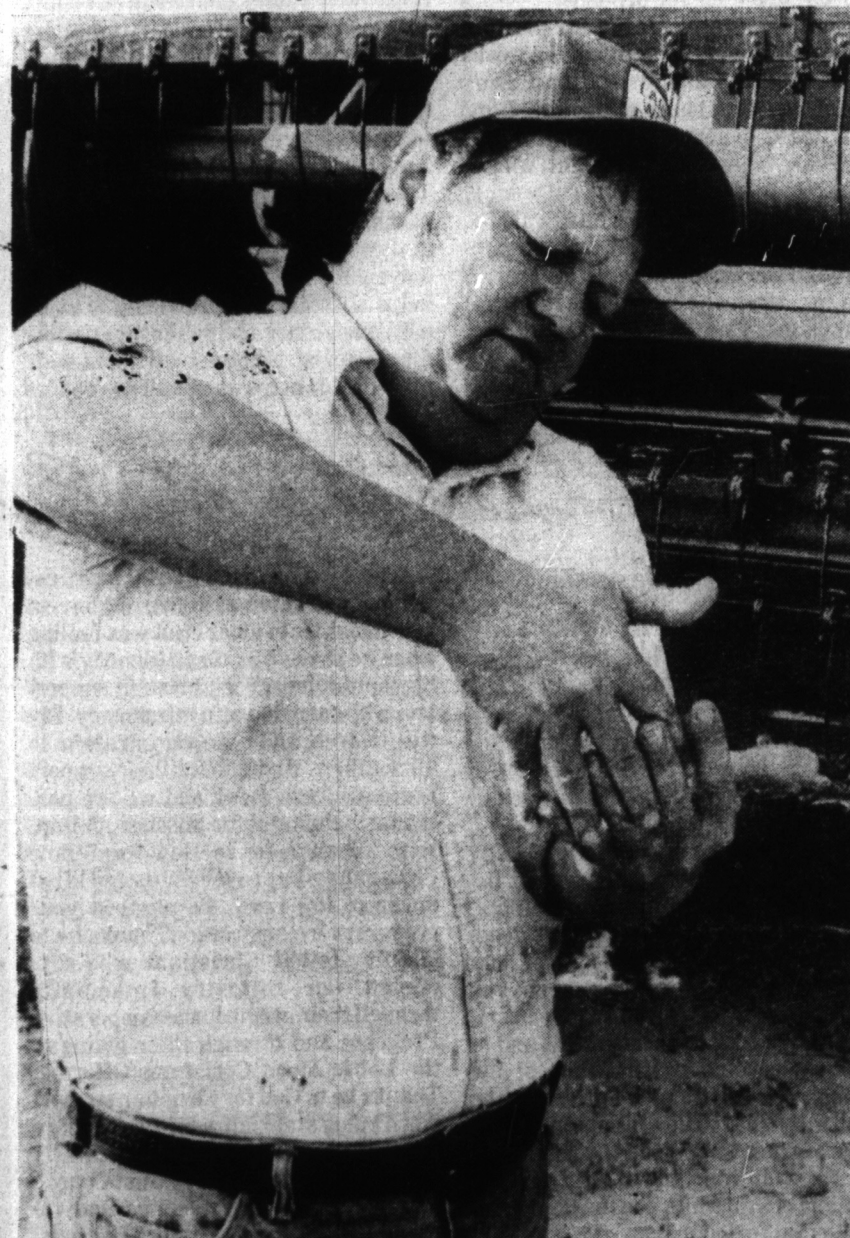
Baptist farmers in delta planting in South America

By Tim Nicholas

A Mississippi delta farm family has its roots in Sharkey County, but it's planting seeds in Uruguay.

The Hodnetts: four brothers, their families, and their father, have become involved in an experimental

farm for Baptist families in the Mercedes area of Uruguay where Mississippi Baptists have a Partnership Missions agreement with Baptists of the Rio de la Plata—the countries of Uruguay, Paraguay, and Argentina.



Reuben Hodnett describes the harvesting process for soybeans. The Hodnett family is now looking for a new harvest next year in Uruguay.

The family, members of Straight Bayou Church in Sharkey County, had always had an interest in foreign missions, particularly in agricultural work. For instance, the father, W. H. Hodnett, had helped fund a goal raising project in the Philippines.

The sons had attended several meetings of the Agricultural Missions Foundation and got to know Gene Triggs, who is associated with the volunteer Baptist group and who is current chairman of the Foreign Mission Board. "I was tremendously impressed with their humbleness, dedication, and their spirit," said Triggs of the Hodnetts.

Knowing they primarily raise soybeans (they plant between 1,600-2,500 acres each year) and needing to be out of town, Triggs asked the Hodnetts to help out when he was in a squeeze.

The Foreign Mission Board, through John Cheyne, its human needs ministries consultant, asked Triggs to give a man from South America some soybean technology advice.

Donovan Waugh, an American who attends the Baptist church in Mercedes, was on his way to Mississippi to learn advanced soy farming techniques. He would be planting, in addition to small garden crops, enough soybeans for 25 to 30 families to have a cash crop. Missionary Donald Davis, with the help of the Baptist Mission in Uruguay, had purchased some acreage in order to help assuage the killing inflation rate in the South American country. In that particular area, laborers earn only about \$1.10 per day.

The Hodnetts loaned brother Reuben to the project for three weeks. Waugh stayed at Reuben's home for about a week, with Reuben showing him around the area, checking out soil, visiting Stoneville where Mississippi has an experimental farm.

In addition to visiting the area—which is about the same distance from the equator as Mercedes—Waugh, an accomplished farmer, needed to buy

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Editorials

The Month of the Bible

President Reagan has proclaimed 1983 the Year of the Bible for the nation, and Gov. William Winter has proclaimed November the month of the Bible in Mississippi.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board also has proclaimed this year as the Year of the Bible and this month as the Month of the Bible.

The motto for the emphasis is "Read Your Bible Each Day." We shouldn't need a slogan to impel us to read our Bibles every day; but if that is what it takes, so be it. The reading of the Word of God should be a part of our nature; but, unfortunately, this is not always true. In fact were truth to be looked squarely in the face, perhaps it would have to be said that daily Bible reading is seldom a part of our nature.

We have to determine that we are

going to do it and then not let anything interfere with our resolve. No matter what it takes, however, we need to have this daily contact with the scriptures. This is the inspired Word of our Creator, our Lord, and our Redeemer. It behooves us to be familiar with its content. It behooves us to be in tune each day with our Master through prayer and through making his Word a part of our lives. It behooves us to let the Holy Spirit speak to us as we read, for the inspiration process didn't stop with the completion of the written Word. It will continue to fill our souls and inspire our hearts if we will submit ourselves to the ministry of the Holy Spirit as we read.

As we are attuned to the Word of the Lord and filled with His Spirit as we read, we realize the truth of the scrip-

ture that is used to provide the framework for the Year and the Month of the Bible. It is II Tim. 3:16, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

This is the Lord speaking about his own words. He says they are all inspired. That is plain enough. There may be those who can't agree on how he did it, but there is little room for argument on what is inspired and what is not.

It is profitable for doctrine, the scripture says. That means that it should be used to teach us the principles of our faith.

The scripture adds that it is profitable for reproof. That means that scripture reading will convict us of error in

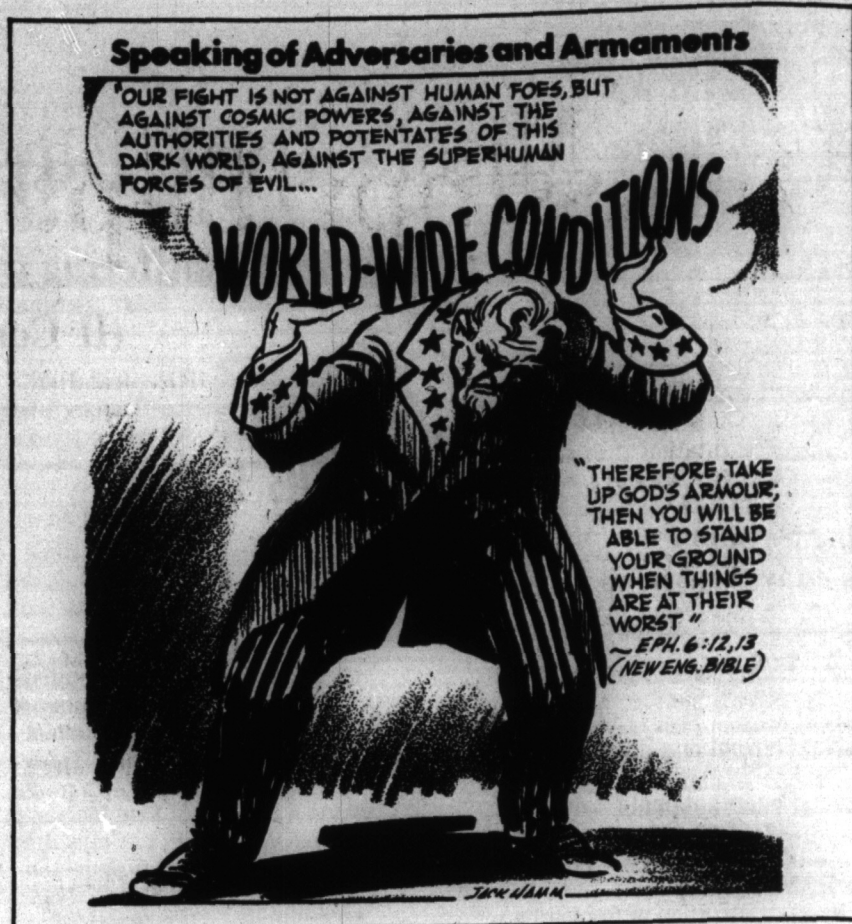
our ways.

Then, thankfully, the scripture continues to point out that the reading of it is profitable for correction. We will learn the principles of our faith, we will understand that we have fallen short, and then we can lean on the scripture to lead us into the path of fellowship with the Lord, to correct our erroneous ways.

Finally, the scripture tells us that it is profitable for instruction in righteousness. It will teach us how to do what is right. After correcting our errors, it will teach us the right way.

It is simple enough. It is a plan for life. It is a plan for salvation.

The Bible deserves to be a part of our daily lives. If we are to be the disciples that we are called on to be, it must be so.



Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams

"If we ask any thing . . ."

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him (I John 5:14, 15).

Avery Willis was right when he warned, "Satan will do everything he can to prevent your becoming an effective disciple and reproducing spiritual leader." When Satan found out I meant business about MasterLife, he picked up all the stumbling blocks he could find and threw them where I'd fall over them. But God has offered spiritual armor to the Christian who will don it through prayer.

For six months, I called my prayer partner, Joan Peterson, in Pensacola, Fla., every Thursday night; her prayers helped me to persevere.

Maybe it was Satan who kept telling me not to write any articles about MasterLife, because he knows, as well as I do, that I am not a star disciple, or anyone's shining example.

I believe that the lessons on "Praying in Faith" meant more to me than any of the others in the 26 weeks of MasterLife. In our study group, we prayed for and with each other, and regularly shared as we received answers.

On Feb. 12, I promised one person in the group I would pray that he would know how to be a good witness to his children. On Feb. 21, he reported in our session that he had talked with them about the way of salvation and not one, but two, had made professions of faith in Christ.

One Friday night, I wrote the name of one of my GAs on the list of persons I would like to see accept Christ. Sunday morning, when the invitation hymn was being sung, my heart began to sing, too, when I realized that it was she who had responded.

Don't laugh at this—for nothing is too small or ordinary for God to care about. I'd been waiting for 12 years to take my dog with me on my walks. Yet every time I'd try to tie the leash around his neck (actually it's an old jump rope!), he'd lie down and stick his legs straight up, and not move a peg. Finally, one afternoon last spring, I said, "Lord, would you please teach

that dog to understand what I want?" Next day, the very next day, Brownie trotted along with me like he'd been doing that all his life!

We in MasterLife compiled individual prayer journals, with sections for prayer resources and daily prayer lists. During a half-day of prayer, each of us in a separate room talked with God about our life purposes and goals.

I've been looking back through my Quiet Time notebook and found these entries:

What God said to me (in 2 Cor. 8, 9): I prize cheerful givers. Remember that I gave you the greatest Gift of all, a gift too wonderful for words. You are ordinary and weak, my child, but you don't have to use human methods to fight your battles.

What I said to God: Thank you Father, that you are my strength. Without you I can do nothing. Fill me with the power of your Spirit.

What God said to me in Psalm 30 and Psalm 108: Weeping may go on all night, but you will meet the dawn with song. I have given my sacred promise.

What I said to God: Thank you for the majesty of morning, the glory of sunrise.

What God said to me (Isa. 55): As the rain and the snow come down and cause the grain to grow and make bread for the hungry and seed for the farmer, so is my Word. I send it out and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to and prosper wherever I send it. (And in Mark 5): Tell your friends what wonderful things I have done for you, and how merciful I have been. (And in Ephesians 2): Because of my kindness you are saved through Christ, not as reward for any good you have done. You can take no credit. (And in I Cor. 3): You are my garden plant. Be beautiful for me.

What I said to God: I praise you for your forgiveness and for your love that endures forever. Make me your instrument. Use my body and my mind as your tools. I confess my negligence in spending less time talking to you, than in reading books about prayer. Thank you, Lord, for the table you have spread before me—of beauty and love, and the surety that you will never fail. I love you, Lord, I thank you for loving me. Teach me to pray.

Tribute to W. L. Day

Editor:

I was delighted to read in your issue of Oct. 20 the article concerning plans by First Baptist Church of Louisville to honor Rev. W. L. Day. I know of no man more richly deserving of this tribute than he.

Though I have known of him for many years; it was in 1968 when I moved to Indianola that his life and ministry began to have a profound effect upon me. Brother Day, then pastor of Fairview Baptist Church, became a true friend to a young man entering the music ministry. Since that time his wise counsel has proven to be an invaluable asset and a source of strength, encouragement, and inspiration.

Brother Day is a man of strong conviction who preaches the Word of God uncompromisingly without fear or favor. At the same time, I know of no man whose love for the Lord and for the people of God is more genuine than his. To be in the presence of Brother Day is to sense the presence of God living and moving in a special way.

He, along with his lovely wife, Allyn, who so recently went to be with the Lord, worked and shared together as a team in the ministry to which God has called them.

I thank God for the life and ministry of Brother W. L. Day. He not only has walked with some of the "greats" in the ministry over the years, but, in my opinion, he is one of the "greats." His influence will surely be felt for years to come.

Ed Sudduth
Assoc. Pastor - Minister of Music
Ashland Baptist Church
Ashland, Mississippi 38603

Guest opinion . . .

Vote — it's your Christian duty

By Linda Mattox

Soon people in each county throughout our state will be participating in a very important event. The persons we choose in the November general election will have an effect upon our lives for the next four years. As Christians it is our responsibility to elect those candidates who stand for Christian principles.

If our country is ever turned back toward God, we must begin with our elected officials. For too long Christ-

ians have had a tendency to remain silent, but look at what this silence has cost us. As the crime rate has increased, those in office have continually looked the other way. And no longer can we feel safe in our small rural neighborhoods. I remember when the really serious crimes were only committed in our large northern cities. Now crime of every sort is a common occurrence in our own hospitality state of small towns.

Many times a large percentage of

people fail to vote in the general election—the most important election of all. It alone determines who will govern us for the next four years.

Christians united can make a difference in our local government for the next four years. The outcome of the election in Alcorn County will determine whose side we are really on. And as Christians all across the state vote on local candidates in their own counties, they too will be showing whose side they are on.

As Christians let's unite in November and help turn our state back toward honor and decency.

Before you vote, carefully examine the records of the candidates.

Before you vote, pray earnestly that God will lead you to make the right choice.

Don't forget, November 8 will determine the future of our counties and state for the next four years.

Linda Mattox is a resident of Rienzi.

Guest opinion . . .

The Cooperative Program: the best way!

By Julius C. Thompson

A special SBC Cooperative Program Study Committee recently concluded two years of intensive inquiry to determine if the Cooperative Program is the best way to carry out the Great Commission. James Pleitz, chairman of that special study committee, said, "Basically we found that the majority of our people believe in what we're doing through the Cooperative Program." During its 58 years of operation, millions of dollars have been channeled through the Cooperative Program to meet urgent needs around the world because Baptists believe the Cooperative way is the best way.

The Cooperative Program is an agreement between churches, state conventions, and the Southern Baptist Convention. It is a channel through which concerned Baptist churches give regularly to meet mission needs around the world.

How can one believer, or one group of believers, however large and strong, carry the gospel to all the people in every nation? Individually, it is impossible. But by combining our resources we collectively are able to

accomplish more mission outreach at home and around the world.

Every Christian is responsible for his share of the Great Commission. I am told, "Go ye into all the world" (Mark 16:15). But all of us cannot go in person. However, by giving of my tithes and offerings through my church I can reach out through the Cooperative Program to teach in a seminary, preach in the desert and the mountains, talk to Africans and Indians, sit beside the suffering in hospitals, walk beside the forgotten in prison, and care for orphans.

The Cooperative Program permits me to work in many parts of the world 24 hours every day for my Lord. During the waking hours of the day, I am privileged to serve in that part of the vineyard where I live. At night, when I lie down to sleep, someone out west is still preaching for me because a part of his salary is supported by my gifts through the Cooperative Program. At 4 a.m., when the whistle of the train wakes me, I am at work through our missionaries in East Africa, for my gift is a part of their support. When my

alarm awakens me for another day, I thank God that in that moment someone in Europe is already at work sharing the gospel because of my gifts through the Cooperative Program. Thus through my gift I am able to work in many places around the clock.

The Cooperative Program helps my church. It enables my church to join with 36,000 other churches in fulfilling its mission. You may be a member of a small, rural church in the Delta; a suburban church in metropolitan setting; or a young church in a county seat town on the Gulf Coast. It matters not where your church is located, whether it is large or small, or what the mission offering is when compared to other congregations. Your church is a part of the world mission enterprise. The Cooperative Program makes it possible for our churches to work together to accomplish more mission outreach. The Cooperative Program helps all of our churches keep in touch with each other and makes it possible for us to be involved in world-wide missions. It helps us see all the causes

of the world and together provide strength for their work.

The Cooperative Program has helped Southern Baptists accomplish what they organized to do. Partnership in missions has been our reason for existence from the beginning. When the Southern Baptist Convention was constituted in 1845, it had a missionary purpose. Missions is the spiritual glue that holds Southern Baptists together, and the Cooperative Program is the channel through which we reach out to our world in the name of Christ.

Through the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists have found an orderly, dependable, efficient, equitable way of supporting their mission challenge. It provides for economical collecting, combining, and distributing of mission funds.

Yes, the Cooperative Program is the best way for all of us to respond to the Great Commission.

Julius C. Thompson is consultant in the department of Stewardship and Cooperative Program Promotion.

Letters to the Editor

Thankful for Baptists

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you Southern Baptists and Mississippi Baptists, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now." — Phil. 1:3-5 NAS

These were the words of the Apostle Paul concerning one of the most beloved churches, the church in Philippi. His love for this church ran very deep. He continues by saying, "It is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers of grace with me." (v. 7) The Philippian church was a great supporter through their prayers for him and their financial support of him while "on the field" and while "on furlough."

especially about Mississippi Baptists, are much like those Paul had for the church at Philippi. As a former missionary journeyman and a hope-to-be career missionary, let me assure you that you are indeed "partakers" in the ministry of all our missionary endeavors. I can't think of any words that better express my feelings other than the words of Paul.

Tony Gray
Long Beach

Ordaining women

Editor:

It would be nice if all Baptists would come into the last half of the 20th Century.

In one article in the Baptist Record of Oct. 27, I read of women being ordained, some with their husbands, into the ministry and going to home mission areas. Thank God for this.

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Mississippi Baptist Convention

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9:35	"Developing Believers"	Mose Dangerfield
9:40	Business Presentation	
	Presentation of Resolutions	
	Election of Convention President	
10:00	Report of Christian Action Commission	Paul Jones
10:15	Congregational Praise	
10:20	Report of Committees	
	Nominations—Time, Place, Preacher	
10:25	Business Session	
	Report of Convention Board	Charles Pickering
	Adoption of Budget	
	Miscellaneous Business	
10:55	Report from Board of Ministerial Education	
11:00	Report from Baptist Foundation	Harold Kitchings
11:05	Testimony	Wayne Burks
11:15	Congregational Praise	
11:20	Message in Song	
11:30	Sermon	Frank Schwall Jr.
12:00	Benediction	

Fourth Session Tuesday Afternoon - Nov. 15

1:50	Prelude	
2:00	Call to Worship	
	Congregational Praise	Allen Hill
	Scripture—Luke 18	Eddie Hamilton
	Prayer	Jimmy Harrington
2:10	Bible Treasure	Helen Jean Parks
2:25	"Developing Believers"	Mose Dangerfield
2:30	Election of Convention Officers	
	First Vice-President	
	Second Vice-President	
	Recording Secretary	
	Associate Recording Secretary	
2:40	Historical Commission	Lynn May
	Presentation of Arthur Flake plaque to FBC, Winona	
3:00	Report from Education Commission	
3:15	Report from Children's Village	
3:25	Testimony	Chester W. Griffin Jr.
3:35	Message in Song	
3:45	Sermon	Grady Cothen
4:15	Benediction	

Fifth Session Tuesday Night - Nov. 15

6:50	Prelude	String Ensemble, FBC, Jackson (Lee Poquette)
7:00	Call to Worship	
	Congregational Praise	David Taylor
	Scripture—Luke 10	J. B. Rose
	Prayer	Doyle Cummings
7:10	Bible Treasure	Helen Jean Parks
7:25	"Developing Believers"	Mose Dangerfield
7:30	Congregational Praise	David Taylor
7:35	Testimony	Mrs. Rebecca Williams FBC, Gautier
7:45	Multi-Media Presentation on New Churches	
8:00	Convention in Worship	
	Music	Sanctuary Choir—Alta Woods Baptist Church Gary Anglin Charles Myers
8:45	Sermon	
	Benediction	



The Fosters accept congratulations from FMB President Keith Parks during a board meeting.

Fosters retire after 36 years in foreign missions

James and Zelma Foster were Southern Baptist missionaries for 36 years, working in China, the Philippines, and Surinam before retiring in September.

At a retirement ceremony, Mrs. Foster noted, "We have learned how precious are the red, brown, yellow, black, and white people of God's beautiful world." Then she named 18 different nationalities with whom the couple have shared the gospel.

Their last four years were spent in Surinam, where he was active in evangelism and church development in Paramaribo. He was also pastor of English-language Grace Baptist Church.

She directed the Dutch Sunday School for children; supervised the youth fellowship group; taught the ladies' Bible study; directed Vacation Bible School and led the interdenominational ladies' fellowship and Bible study group.

The Fosters were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1947, expecting to work in China. But they spent only a little over a year there before the spread of communism forced them to transfer to the Philippines in 1949.

They were stationed in Baguio, where he was evangelist and adviser for Baptist work among the Chinese and taught in the Philippine Baptist Theological Seminary. She taught in the seminary and was also acting dean of women and librarian.

In 1968 they moved to Manila, where he was a general evangelist. He was

also treasurer for 22 years of the Philippine Baptist Mission (organization of Southern Baptist missionaries). Mrs. Foster taught an adult Sunday School class at the International Baptist Church and was church clerk there.

They resigned in July 1979, but were reappointed in November of that year for Surinam, where they worked before retiring.

Born in Jackson, Miss., Foster was a graduate of Mississippi College, and earned two master of theology degrees from Southern Seminary.

Mrs. Foster, the former Zelma Van Osdel, was born in Montrose, Miss., and grew up in Pascagoula. She is a graduate of Blue Mountain College and earned the master of religious education degree from the Woman's Missionary Union Training School (now part of Southern Seminary), and the bachelor of divinity degree from Southern Seminary.

They have two grown children.

Boyce professorship

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—Boyce Bible School has received \$100,000 to fund the school's first endowed professorship.

Boyce, a division of Southern Seminary here, provides ministerial training for persons who have not received college degrees.

An anonymous donor committed the \$100,000 to begin the Harold J. Purdy Professorship. Purdy is a professor at Boyce.

Sixth Session Wednesday - Nov. 16

8:50	Prelude	
9:00	Call to Worship	
	Congregational Praise	
	Scripture—John 6	Larry W. Fields
	Prayer	Wayne Edwards
9:10	Message in Song	
9:20	Bible Treasure	Helen Jean Parks
9:35	"Developing Believers"	Mose Dangerfield
9:40	Miscellaneous Business and Reports	
	Report of Resolutions Committee	
	Memorial Service	
10:10	Mississippi Baptist Seminary	Richard Brogan
10:15	Congregational Praise	
10:20	Message in Song	
10:30	Sermon	Roy Honeycutt
11:00	Church-Minister Relations and Annuity Report	P. C. Perkins
11:10	Testimony	George Lee
11:20	Message in Song	
11:30	Sermon	John L. Sullivan
12:00	Benediction	

State Baptists invited to stress "Month of Bible"

Mississippi Baptists are being invited by their Sunday School Department to participate in a "Month of the Bible" emphasis during November.

Suggested activities would be to follow the Bible reading plan in Open Windows or Encounter magazines; schedule Bible exhibits in churches and public areas; distribute Scripture leaflets at athletics events, parks, shopping centers, hospitals, nursing homes, and jails; and view films on the Bible.

Keith Wilkinson, department director, points to biblical passages which speak of the importance of the Bible: II Timothy 3:16; Psalms 119:89; Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 5:18; and I Peter 1:25.

November Bible readings for those participating would be:

Nov. 1: RBT (Read the Bible Through) Passages: Ezekiel 1-2; James 1:1-8; Devotional Reading Passage: James 1:1-8.

Nov. 2: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 3-5; James 1:9-15; Devotional Reading Passage: Ezekiel 3:14-21.

Nov. 3: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 6-7; James 1:16-21; Devotional Reading Passage: Ezekiel 6:1-10.

Nov. 4: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 8-10; James 1:22-27; Devotional Reading Passage: James 1:22-27.

Nov. 5: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 11-12; James 2:1-7; Devotional Reading Passage: Ezekiel 11:2-13.

Nov. 6: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 13-15; James 2:8-13; Devotional Reading Passage: James 2:8-13.

Nov. 7: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 16; James 2:14-26; Devotional Reading Passage: Ezekiel 16:56-63.

Nov. 8: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 17-18; James 3:1-5; Devotional Reading Passage: James 3:1-5.

Nov. 9: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 19-20; James 3:6-12; Devotional Reading Passage: Ezekiel 20:1-9.

Nov. 10: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 21-22; James 3:13-18; Devotional Reading Passage: James 3:13-18.

Nov. 11: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 23; James 4:1-10; Devotional Reading Passage: James 4:1-6.

State liquor ad ban upheld

(Continued from page 1)

cohol advertising. The ban includes all types of outdoor advertising, ads in magazines, newspapers, on radio, television, and requires blanking out television ads beamed in to stations operating in the state. The rules exclude cable television, and publications produced in other states. Both may be advertised in all media.

The Tax Commission was reportedly looking into possible action against the Gannett chain which prints USA Today in Hattiesburg for regional distribution. That publication includes liquor ads. All writing and make-up work on the paper is done outside of the state.

Gale Denley, president of the Mississippi Press Association, said the organization was looking into possible further action, which could include appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Several other states, including Florida, Massachusetts, Utah, and Oklahoma have advertising restrictions on liquor.

National Baptists reelect Jemison

LOS ANGELES (EP)—The 6.8 million member National Baptist Convention unanimously re-elected its president Theodore J. Jemison.

Coretta Scott King, widow of the civil rights leader, told the convention that "a lot of healing has taken place" with Jemison's rise to the National Baptist presidency. Her husband led a break with the National Baptists in 1961 because of Jemison's predecessor Joseph H. Jackson's opposition to King's non-violent protest strategies.

Nov. 12: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 24-25; James 4:11-17; Devotional Reading Passage: James 4:11-17.

Nov. 13: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 26-27; James 5:1-6; Devotional Reading Passage: James 5:1-6.

Nov. 14: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 28-29; James 5:7-12; Devotional Reading Passage: James 5:7-12.

Nov. 15: RBT Passages: Ezekiel 30-31; James 5:13-20; Devotional Reading Passage: James 5:13-16.

Baptist farmers in Delta planting in South America

(Continued from page 1)

soybean seeds. However, primarily due to drought, the seeds, which ordinarily go for \$8.50 per bushel, had shot up to \$10.

The Hodnetts decided to donate 100 bushels, and another 400 bushels were purchased with hunger and relief funds from Southern Baptists. Reuben attached a string to the Hodnett beans, that part of the crop each year would be given to other needy farmers in Uruguay.

And the Hodnetts sent back to Uruguay with Waugh, about 90 pounds of garden seeds—tomatoes, turnips, kale, butterbeans, snap beans—"a drove of folks gave" said Reuben.

Import-export difficulties concerning shipment of the soybeans were solved through the intervention of Jean McDaniel at the Foreign Mission Board who helps missionaries with moving problems, and the ham radio work of Baptist layman Don Berry of Jackson, who worked out problems along with Missionary Davis in Uruguay.

So the seeds should be in Uruguay in plenty of time for November planting (seasons are reversed south of the equator) and now Reuben hopes to follow them to help with soil preparation and planting.

"Money is always important," says Reuben, "but a person gets more out of it by going than just giving \$10 or \$100."

He believes that volunteer involvement by Southern Baptists is on the upswing, noting that not long ago, it was difficult for volunteers to go help

Brotherhood sets philosophy

(Continued from page 1)

expense paid trip to the Grand Ole Opry as a guest of Jerry Clower, a blazer with an RA emblem, and a plaque.

The trustees elected nine new officers. Don Greene, attorney in Hickory, N. C., was elected chairman; Norris Stampey, engineer in Jackson, Miss., was elected vice chairman, and Dennis Daniel, pastor in Phoenix, Ariz., was elected recording secretary.

Others elected included Trent Grubbs, Crenshaw, Miss., vice chairman, program services committee.

In other action the trustees voted to express disapproval of the use of Glorieta and Ridgecrest Conference Centers as a meeting place of Boy Scouts and asked a letter be written to Sunday School Board President-elect Lloyd Elder stating the Commission's disapproval of promoting or exposure of Boy Scouts through Southern Baptist literature.

(Davis writes for the Brotherhood Commission.)

When Charles Spurgeon was asked whether he thought the heathen, who had never heard the Gospel, could be saved, he replied: "It is more a question with me whether we, who have the Gospel and fail to give it to those who do not, can be saved."



Still reads Bible

Governor William Winter proclaimed November the "Month of the Bible" in Mississippi. International Bible Society designated Nov. 6 as International Bible Sunday. One Mississippi woman who loves and reads her Bible lives at Care Inn in Cleveland. Annie Cooter, 97 (born July 1, 1886), is a member of First Baptist Church, Charleston. Noel Brock, pastor of Eastwood Church, Indianola, observes, "She sits in her wheelchair in the hall each day and reads her Bible." He said she also reads the Baptist Record.

To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God, to devote the will to the purpose of God.—William Temple.

Stay in Grenada

(Continued from page 1)

ate, they lifted the curfew for four hours on Monday before the Tuesday invasion.

Most people spent the time trying to locate family members, and the Davises visited as many church members as possible and discovered all were okay.

Awakened in their home by the sound of heavy gunfire, the Davises huddled in the corner of their bedroom for 10 minutes of terror, not knowing who the attackers were, before Carter Davis crawled to the window and identified the parachuting paratroopers as U.S. troops.

Although fighting took place on all sides of their neighborhood, the missionaries were able to visit neighbors after the invasion began. The British High Commissioner's representative, a friend of theirs, used the Eberharts' phone until it went dead, to contact British citizens and officials.

The international troops finally secured their neighborhood, home for many of the American medical students on the island, Oct. 27; and Mrs. Eberhardt said she slept for the first time since the invasion. During the nights, it was difficult to tell where firing came from and how close it was to the house.

Miraculously, throughout the Oct. 16 coup, the week of curfew, and the fighting during the Oct. 25 invasion, there were no deaths or serious injuries among Baptist church members.

When the missionaries offered their help, American authorities asked them to coordinate distribution of food and water provided by the U.S. Army for their neighborhood. The Eberharts had prepared a list of supplies needed and Robin Eberhardt had prepared a statement to send the Foreign Mission Board, when they met the Davises and learned Charlotte Davis had decided to return to the States.

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Rio de la Plata lists partnership projects

Baptists in the three nations of the Rio de la Plata have submitted several requests for assistance in projects that they have established. The three countries of the Rio de la Plata are Paraguay, Uruguay, and Argentina, the three countries with which Baptists of Mississippi have formed a partnership alliance.

The requests for assistance are as follows:

Paraguay

Evangelist and house visitors: San Ignacio, rural area in southern zone; two to four persons; short term; knowledge of Spanish helpful; housing in hotel; need \$100 per week; transportation supplied; hold a revival in San Ignacio; anytime.

Teachers for Sunday School Workshop: two weeks; one to four persons; a workshop for all the churches of the convention—teaching the Sunday School teachers how better to teach the lessons; needed in July; hotel available or space can be found in homes; food the same; transportation will be provided as needed; knowledge of Spanish helpful; Asuncion.

Uruguay

Youth education: Montevideo; one week; up to four persons; working with pre-school children and youth; housing and meals provided; transportation provided as related to the work; plan and carry out activities for missionary children during morning and afternoon sessions of the annual mission meeting July 2 to 7, 1984; three pre-schoolers; four elementary children; six middle high schoolers; and six high school students.

Camp worker: two single males needed for camp work; 10-hour days scattered from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.; 2/12

months; one free day per week; last week in December or whenever possible in January; housing free; volunteer will pay own board; kitchen duty; serving tables; emptying trash cans; feeding hogs; washing dishes; odd jobs; beach 1/3 of mile away; must abide by camp rules.

Argentina

Teacher training team: one week; Barranqueras, Chaco; three persons; help train Sunday School teachers for children, young people, and adults; either men or women; a week in November or within the first 15 days of December; Spanish helpful, no translators; church will provide housing, meals, and transportation within the city.

Construction: Reconquista in Sante Fe Province; two weeks; four persons; help repair church building; masonry work and painting; congregation of 20 members; knowledge of Spanish helpful; rooms available at \$50 per week per person; meals \$50 per week per person; need people with bricklaying experience; anytime.

Evangelism: short term; six persons; preaching, teaching, chalk talks; need to bring chalk talk equipment; housing, meals, and transportation provided by the association; San Juan Association has 1,000 Baptists in 10 congregations; population 500,000; two women, four men; give orientation about the work of Baptist men and women, the deacon, and back yard Bible studies.

Microfilming: short term; Buenos Aires; person or persons from Historical Commission of Mississippi Baptists; microfilm historical materials and train personnel in use of microfilm and reader; must bring equipment to do microfilming; seminary has reader; hope that equipment can be left; housing and meals at seminary; anytime.

Three leave Tennessee childrens' home posts

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. (BP)—The executive of the Tennessee Baptist Childrens' Homes, Inc., has announced he will take early retirement and two of the three campus superintendents have resigned following disclosures of "extremely low morale" among TBCH employees.

At an Oct. 11 meeting of TBCH trustees, Evans B. Bowen, 63, who has been executive director-treasurer since 1976, announced plans to retire Dec. 31, 1983. At the same meeting John Ashby, superintendent of the Franklin home, and Keith Wilson of the Memphis home tendered their resignations.

The third superintendent, Burt McMillan of the Chattanooga home, was commended by trustees for his positive attitude and the actions he is taking in response to the trustees, according to Charles Gibbs, trustee chairman and pastor of North Athens Baptist Church, Athens.

The Oct. 11 meeting was the first of 12 monthly meetings planned by trustees during the coming year to deal with what was described as "extremely low morale" on the TBCH campuses.

At that September meeting, trustees voted to "express disapproval of the executive director's failure to recognize and to respond to" the low morale

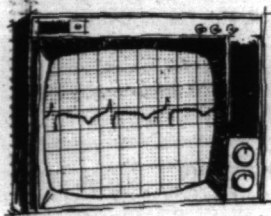
problem. They cited the morale problem existed on all campuses, but said it was most critical on the Franklin campus. They also voted to express disapproval of the superintendent of that home for his failure to recognize and respond to the problem.

Chairman Gibbs said the resignations of Ashby and Wilson were voluntary.

Trustees adopted a statement: "That in all the facts and information that have been brought to our attention, we wish to make clear that there is no note of immorality or moral wrongdoing. The problems have been matters of judgment and policy management. Further, we have been advised that our children are well cared for and spiritually motivated."

It also was reported following the October meeting that Ashby and Wilson found difficulty in accepting the Sept. 8 action of trustees in eliminating the educational coordinator position from their staffs. In each instance, the position was filled by the wife of the superintendent.

Both superintendents will continue their responsibilities through Dec. 31. Trustees voted to continue the salaries of their wives for a full year—through Oct. 31, 1984—even though the positions have been abolished.



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Abused wife

This is most difficult to write, because I am one of those wives who has kept her mouth shut all of these years, thinking it was the best thing for her children. I know now I should have left my husband the first time he hit me, which he started right after we married.

He is so unsure and doesn't have self confidence. He always clung to his Mom and Dad. He is so mean. I used to say he was sick, but this is the way he was taught. My husband slaps me around every time he gets mad and then he runs out to his Mama. I have been afraid of what he will do to me. I don't know what to do. My husband is a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. Please pray for me.

I try to live the way I should as a Christian. I go to church and see after the children and work. Life is so bad. I get so depressed. I know I am not perfect, but I know how a Christian should act. I would like for our lives to be better, but I don't know what to do.

To abused wife: The scripture says that one must leave parents and cleave to the spouse. Gen. 2:24. Many leave home geographically but don't leave home emotionally. It appears that your marriage did not pass this first test. As for neglect and abuse, your letter does not indicate what provokes your husband; but whatever the pro-

vocation, physical abuse is always wrong. Attempts at character assassination are difficult to live with. (from parts of letter omitted) Your deduction as to his sickness is probably correct even though to quote, "This is the way he was taught."

If you are to continue to live together, you both need counseling. For your own peace of mind to aid in determining direction and to alleviate your depression, you should get it anyway. In the area from which your letter is postmarked, there are many competent marriage counselors.

In the meantime, continue to live as a Christian, deriving your spiritual strength from the Lord, not only for survival but for growth. Whether or not your marriage survives depends upon changes that are indicated, but you can survive, for Romans 8:28-39 is still true.

Inquiries to Intensive Care are welcomed. Readers who feel the need of being in touch with Intensive Care are encouraged to write. Identities remain confidential. And though the identities of those performing this ministry have been kept confidential to this point, they are well qualified for the service they are rendering. Inquiries should be addressed to Intensive Care, Baptist Record, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.—Editor.



Bovina dedicates new facilities

Bovina Church, Vicksburg, held dedication services Oct. 2, one year after ground breaking, Oct. 3, 1982. Both services marked start of fall revival and beginning of improved services and larger facilities.

The 5,225 square feet sanctuary with seating capacity of 400 including the choir, has an additional 5,000 square feet educational space which includes multipurpose fellowship hall, church offices, pastor study, choir and robing room, library and prayer room with educational space. The old sanctuary will be renovated for use as preschool facilities.

The pastor, Carl S. Barnes, states that "a conservative estimated cost was \$500,000, although construction cost was considerably less because of the spirit and cooperation of the church family in total involvement."

Alumni plan meals during convention week

Southwestern

Mississippi alumni of Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., will gather for a reunion luncheon during the week of the Mississippi Baptist Convention in Jackson. This luncheon will take place Nov. 15 at noon in Jackson at the Holiday Inn Downtown. David Garland, professor of old Testament at the seminary, will be the speaker. The cost of the meal ticket will be \$6.50. Advance tickets can be ordered from W. E. Hardy, Jr. (president of the state alumni group), First Baptist Church, Columbus, Miss. 39701, or from D. P. Smith, Box 530, Jackson 39205.

New Orleans Seminary

The New Orleans Seminary Alumni Luncheon will be at noon, Tuesday, Nov. 15, at the Sheraton Regency, 750 North State Street, Jackson.

Tickets are \$7.50 and may be ordered from John McBride, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. Dan Hall is in charge of the music, and J. Hardee Kennedy will represent the seminary.

Officers include Ken Anderson, president; John McBride, vice president; and Don O'Quinn, treasurer.

Southern Seminary

Alumni of Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., will gather for their annual fall reunion Nov. 16 during the meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

The reunion will be at noon at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Building in Jackson. Featured speaker will be Roy Honeycutt, president of Southern Seminary.

Tickets and further information may be obtained from William Ferrell, 787 East Northside Dr., Jackson, Mississippi 39206.

Clarke College

The Clarke College Alumni Fellowship dinner will be held on Nov. 14, at 5:30 p.m. at the Sun-N-Sand Motor Hotel, 401 North Lamar, Jackson.

Guest speaker will be Ron Kirkland, academic dean and registrar at Clarke. Alumni and guests who plan to attend should call Clarke at 683-2063. In the Jackson area, a local call may be made by calling 924-5131 and asking for extension 321.

Mississippi College

Mississippi College alumni who will be attending the Mississippi Baptist Convention Nov. 14, 15, and 16 are invited to a complimentary breakfast on Tuesday, Nov. 15, from 7:30 until 8:30 a.m. The Mississippi College National Alumni Association will be the host, according to Carl Savell, Class of 1960. The breakfast will be held in the Study Center South building of First Church, Jackson.

Revival Dates

Good Hope, Richton: Nov. 6-11; night services only, at 7; Tommy Brill, Meridian, evangelist; W. F. Holder, pastor; dinner on the grounds Sunday at 12.

Harmony, Crystal Springs: Nov. 4, 5, 6; Fri. and Sat. at 7:30 p.m.; Sun. at 11 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.; Bob Hanvey, First Church, Hazlehurst, evangelist; Mike Smith, guest musician; Mike Pennock, pastor.

Parks Church (Union Association): Nov. 28-Dec. 2; services at 7 nightly; Billy Davis, pastor of Cherry Creek, Pontotoc County, evangelist; Charles Ransier, pastor of New Harmony Church, Union Association, directing music; Tommy Miller, pastor.

Cherry Park, Clinton: Oct. 30-Nov. 4; Mon.-Fri. Oct. 31-Nov. 4 at 7:30 p.m.; Frank Bishop, pastor, North Winona, evangelist; E. C. Harpe, Florence, musician; Hollis Alderman, pastor.

Blue Mountain

The Blue Mountain College ministerial alumni banquet will be held Tuesday evening, Nov. 15, at Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson, at 5:15 p.m. The dinner will be followed by a program of singing by James Lewis, Tate Street Church Corinth, and preaching by Tommy Vinson, Colonial Hills Church, Southaven. Tickets will be on sale from the officers of the Ministerial Alumni Association: Wayne Marshall, Bill Baker, or David Allen. The cost of the banquet is \$5.00 per person.

William Carey

All William Carey College alumni are invited to a complimentary breakfast, Tuesday, Nov. 15, at 7:45 a.m. This year's breakfast will feature Tom Hearon, director of religious activities at Carey, and will be held in the small dining room of First Church, Jackson.

Mid-America

Mid-America Baptist Seminary Alumni breakfast will be held during the meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention in Jackson. It will be at 7 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 15, in the Oxford Room of the Sheraton Regency Hotel, as announced by Ken Bradley, pastor of the Carey Chapel Church, Red Banks. Earl Kelly, executive secretary, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will be the speaker.

Baptist Bible Institute

The Baptist Bible Institute alumni luncheon will be held during the Mississippi Baptist Convention in Jackson. Mississippi alumni will meet to eat at the Bonanza, Highway 80W, at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 15. (Baptist Bible Institute is located in Graceville, Fla.)

Strong Hope to dedicate center

Strong Hope Church, Wesson, will dedicate its new family life center on Sunday, Nov. 6. The two-story building, adjoining the sanctuary, houses educational, recreational, and dining facilities. Much of the labor was donated by the men of the church.

Sunday School on Nov. 6 will begin at 10 a.m. Morning worship at 11 will be followed by a covered-dish meal in the new fellowship hall. The dedication service, to begin at 1:15 p.m., will include special music and comments by members, former members, former pastors, and construction workers. The pastor, Jerry Kennedy, will deliver the dedicatory address.

Mississippi Baptist Activities

Nov. 6-12 Royal Ambassador Emphasis Week (SBC & BRO Emphasis)
Nov. 7-8 Pastor/New Church Training Director Conference; in each association (CT)

Med Center students to hear Swor, Werner

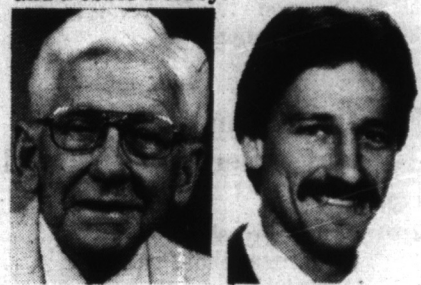
Religious Emphasis Week at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, Nov. 7-8, will feature Chester Swor, full-time religious speaker, and his associate Scott Werner, musician.

The week begins with Swor speaking to a faculty meeting, Nov. 7, at 10 a.m. He will address students and other interested people at noon in the subway auditorium on Monday and Tuesday. The public is invited to the noon programs. Swor, Werner, and BSU leaders will attend a luncheon Tuesday at 1 p.m.

To prepare for Religious Emphasis Week there was a testimony service at Rice Acres featuring Nick Smith, pastor of Delta City Church, Nov. 1. Prior to the week students were to receive a letter from Linda Turley, BSU president, encouraging the students to be in prayer for the upcoming week. Accompanying the letter will be a red ribbon with the message "Jesus, Lord

of Promises" for the students to wear.

Religious Emphasis Week is organized each year by Kathy Bearden, MBMC director of student activities, and by BSU students from the four health related schools at MBMC: Medical Technology, Radiologic Technology, Respiratory Therapy, and Practical Nursing. (The latter two are affiliated with Hinds Junior College.) Co-chairmen for this year's Religious Emphasis Week are Peggy Cameron and Debbie Dorsey.



Swor

Werner

House funding bill would preserve non-profit rates

WASHINGTON (BP)—Non-profit postal rates would remain at current levels throughout fiscal 1984 under a funding bill passed Oct. 27 by the U.S. House of Representatives.

The \$11.9 billion Treasury-Postal Service appropriations bill passed by the House on a voice vote contained \$879 million for the postal subsidy which provides reduced mail rates for a wide range of non-profit organizations, the full amount needed to maintain current rates.

However, non-profit mailers could face a rate increase if the Senate, which has yet to pass its Treasury-Postal Service funding bill, goes along with the \$802 million postal subsidy figure approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee. Non-profit rates would be hiked an estimated 4 to 12 percent under the Senate committee bill.

The Senate is expected to act soon on

the Postal Service funding measure because the stopgap bill currently funding it is due to expire Nov. 10. If the Senate settles on the figure approved by its Appropriations Committee, House-Senate conferees would then work out differences between the two bills.

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SALEM CHURCH, WALTHAM COUNTY, burned a note Oct. 9, to celebrate debt retirement on a \$45,000 sanctuary improvement project which included bricking the building, and adding a new vestibule, new entrance, restrooms, and a new sound room. Improvements were dedicated Sept. 4, on the church's 100th anniversary. The present pastor is Lonnie Beall. This work was begun under the former pastor, Richard Holden. Building Committee members were Elton Beard, Buel Boyd, and Henderson Rushing. Finance Committee included Joyce Bracey, Nolan Martin, and Faye Wilson. Burning the note, left to right, are Pastor Beall, Buel Boyd, Henderson Rushing, Joyce Bracey, and Nolan Martin.



FLORA CHURCH held its annual churchwide barbeque on Sept. 21, 1983, and served a barbeque plate to approximately 350 members and guests. This yearly event has grown and is always well attended, not only by members of the host church, but by other local church members and guests as well. The church used this occasion also to honor its new pastor and family with a surprise housewarming/pounding. In addition to food, many other gifts were presented, including a weeping fig plant arranged as a money tree. The new pastor is J. Steve Jackson from Aberdeen. He, his wife, Peggy, and their daughter, Christie, moved to Flora from the Pearlington, First Church in Pearlington, Miss. Since Aug. 14, under his leadership Flora Church has increased its membership by 34.



CALVARY CHURCH, WINSTON COUNTY, ordained three deacons recently. They are pictured with the pastor, left to right—Ken Cooper (pastor), Howard Ryals, Charles Covington, and Guy Young. Jerry Stevens, Winston County director of missions, gave the charge to the church; Leonard Howell, pastor, Evergreen Church, gave the charge to the deacons.



LAKEVIEW CHURCH, LELAND, recently ordained three deacons. Left to right are the pastor, Paul Blanchard; Ralph Ross, Mike Jones, and Adam Gonzalez, new deacons.



COLLINSVILLE CHURCH, Collinsville, recently held a Girls in Action and Acteens recognition service. The theme was "His Way, Mine." The following GA's were recognized: Sha Boatner, Becky Freeman, Cristy Proaps, Christen Scott, Paula Brown, Christine Ward, Boo Boatner, and Christi Ethridge. These Acteens were recognized: Amy Jordan, Renee Walker, Pam Brown, Joann Waltman, and Joey Ward. GA leaders are Kathy Karrh and Carlene Buntyn. Acteen leaders are Annette Proaps and Nadine Jordan. The pastor is L. Gordon Sansing.

First Church, Mize will observe note burning and debt free day on Nov. 6. Dinner will be served at church. W. P. Blair will bring the message. All offerings given on this date will go into future building plans.

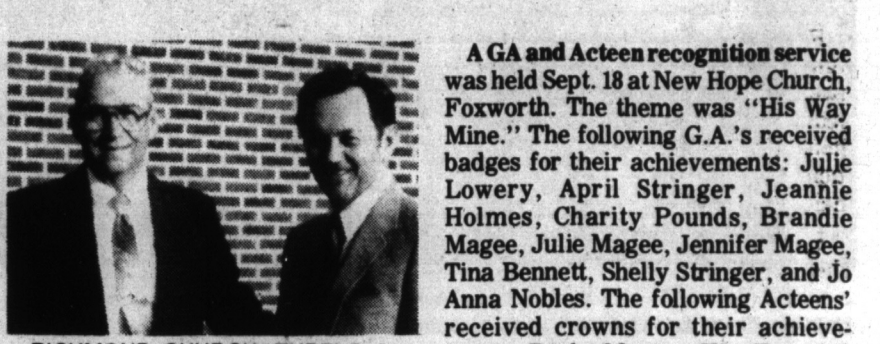
The Children's Choirs at Oakdale Church, Brandon, will present a musical, "God's Kids," on Sunday night, Nov. 6, at 7 p.m. "God's Kids" is a collection of songs based on scriptures from God's Word that children enjoy singing and sharing with others.



Short Creek Church, near Iuka, held a recognition service recently for GAs and Acteens, using the theme, "Jesus is the Lighthouse." Letitia McNally was named Queen-Regent-in-Service (in center at left). GAs who received badges were (in center photo), Dena Crum, Cindy Enlow, and Geri L. Bonds. Mission Friends who took part in the service are at right with their leader, Nancy Floyd. G. D. Jones is the pastor. Mattie S. Floyd is the WMU director. GA leader is Vivian Goodman and GA director is Lucie Frickey.



PARKWAY CHURCH, MORTON has completed a new church building and will hold dedication service and open house, and begin a three-day revival on Nov. 6. The church was founded by Harold Blackwell in August, 1981. It now has 61 members, with 15 professions of faith made in two years. There will be guest speakers, special music by the "Revelations," church history by Jimmy Dale Miles, testimonial service by individuals, and a message by Pastor Glenn Hayman. Services will conclude with baptism of 12 candidates. Parkway is 1 1/2 miles south of Morton, on Highway 18.



RICHMOND CHURCH, TUPELO, has ordained Thomas J. Carr, left, as deacon. G. L. Ford preached the ordination sermon. William P. Smith gave the charge to the church. Harold Anderson gave the charge to the candidate. At right is the pastor, Robert H. Rogers.

A BSU Evangelism team held the Wednesday night service at Hebron Baptist Church, Jones County, recently. Members of the team included Jeff Holland, Pascagoula; Lisa Smith, Richton; Connie Smith, Laurel; Hal Fleming, Shubuta; Kirk Hinton, Soso; Candy Sumner, Moselle; and Lisa Heathcock, Enterprise. During the service these students sang, gave testimonies, and preached.

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THE VILLAGE VIEW

FROM
Baptist Children's Village

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Gifts of Honor and Memory September 26 - October 25

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a listing of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is helpfully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

- Jesse**
Ann P. Caffey
Johnnie
Mrs. L. H. Stoner
Marlin Aldridge
Mr. M. B. McCarty
Mrs. Lora Mitchell
Mrs. Annabel Allen
Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Hart
McHenry Allison
Cassilda Ladies Sunday School
Henry Anderson
Friends of Forest Baptist Church
Bob Armstrong
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Little
Mattie Hays Ashley
Mrs. Ray Hamilton
Wilson Ashley
The Robert M. Sweet Family
The G. R. Sullivan Family
Walter Bader
Mrs. George Stock, III
Mrs. Effie Frances Bain
Mrs. Annie B. Thurmond
James Edgar Barham
Dr. & Mrs. T. Scott McCay
Mrs. Besie Barberg
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph W. Cobb
Miss Beth Johnson
Mrs. Louise Beason
Mr. & Mrs. Roy S. Gentry
Mrs. Beth Beasell
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William Bonner
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Little
Elliot Boone
Mr. & Mrs. George M. Yarbrough
Mrs. Ruth Booth
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M. A. Boote
Mrs. W. G. Mize, Sr.
Mrs. Edward E. Smith, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. J. C. Stennett
Zeb Reid Boteler
Mr. & Mrs. Louis F. Boteler
Mrs. Leona Brewer
Leora Simpson
Jim Brinker
Dr. & Mrs. W. Robert Battle
Mr. & Mrs. George Watts
Mrs. Lucille Brown
Sadie Stoval Sunday School
Mrs. Marjorie S. Brown
Mrs. B. M. Seale
- Mrs. Ada Bruce**
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Eunice Sunday School, Cleveland
Lawrence Brumelow
Mrs. Peggy Shuckrow
Dolores & Jeff Derrick
Mrs. Fred Burford, Sr.
Nellie L. Wilkie
Mrs. Aldrich Carruth
Mr. & Mrs. John M. Mabry
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Annie Mae Carter
Mr. & Mrs. Glen King
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Mrs. George Stock, III
Mrs. Jessie Cash
Kolola Springs Baptist Church
Harmon Caver
Mr. & Mrs. Sam T. Carter
Mrs. Helen K. Chambers
Mr. & Mrs. John M. Mabry
Frank H. Coleman
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Bratton
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"Bubba" Cook
Mr. & Mrs. D. O. Baker
James William Cordell
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Mrs. Mary Cain Dickerson
Mr. & Mrs. Vardaman Ellington
Lela Dickson
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Elva Dunlap
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Mrs. Mary T. Hughes
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Mrs. Alex Flynn
Mrs. E. S. Wade
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Mr. & Mrs. James L. Hall
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Miss Callie D. Guyton
Mrs. Gus Parr
Leighann Hamric
Mrs. Victor L. Byrd
Mrs. Cecily Hardy
Mrs. Eunice W. Shinn
Mrs. Ivy Harmon
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G. Vick Hauff
Foy A. Davis
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Rural Mail Carriers, Natchez
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Mrs. & Mrs. Burnell Brown
Mrs. Hettie Henderson
Siloam Baptist Church
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Carrene Haver
Lillie S. Smith
Mrs. Avis Howard
Mrs. Thomas E. Parker
Mrs. Gladys Howard
Mrs. W. M. (Jean) Miller
- Mrs. Lottie McRaney**
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J. P. McSpadden
Ann P. Caffey
Frank Merritt
Mr. Charles Warren
Ray Mikell
Mr. & Mrs. Paul J. Jaggars
R. B. Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Lonnie Oakes
Mrs. H. L. Ming
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Smith
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Monroe Baptist Association
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Mr. & Mrs. James R. Carter
Elton Mordecai
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Blake
L. V. Moses
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Lynk
Mr. Mosley
Mr. & Mrs. Rowe Rhett
Miss Ruby Nabers
Elizabeth Evans
Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Ray
Mr. & Mrs. William G. Boykin
Mrs. Cecil James
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Holidays

As Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays quickly approach we would remind Village friends that if you are interested in being a HOLIDAYS HOST FAMILY information, requests and invitations need to be made as early as possible by contacting The Baptist Children's Village at either P. O. Box 11308, Jackson, Miss. 39213 or (601) 922-2242.

Thanksgiving Holidays
November 23 - November 27

Christmas Holidays
December 21 - January 2 (for The India Nunnery Campus)
December 17 - December 31 (for all other facilities)

We need houseparents

At the present time we are in need of houseparent staff for live-in positions to serve in cottage life. Houseparent responsibilities include care of and attendance to the needs of the children and young people who live with us. Couples and single ladies who are interested in applying for these positions or in acquiring additional information are urged to contact Wallace Lee either by calling (601) 922-2242 or writing Box 11308, Jackson, Miss. 39213. Both interest and prayerful consideration will be greatly appreciated.

How to admit a child

Those referring children to The Village for admission are urged to contact Mrs. Madge King, Secretary to our Department of Social Service. She may be reached at P.O. Box 11308, Jackson, Miss., 39213 or at telephone number 922-2242. Mrs. King will dispatch applications and related papers, fix appointment for in-take family studies and complete all details precedent to interviews. These interviews are conducted by appointment made by Mrs. King with our Social Service Coordinator, or Mondays and Fridays only.



JERRY OSWALT, pastor at Second Avenue Church, Laurel, and his wife, and children, David and Deborah, rode to Sunday School Oct. 9 in a buggy pulled by a horse.

Second Avenue "loves Laurel for 75 years"

Special events through 1983 have commemorated 75 years at Second Avenue church, Laurel. Slides of former pastors were shown. One of the early pastors' sons, David T. Cranford, Jackson, brought a message for the kick-off celebration. A pictorial church directory and cook book have been published, proceeds from the latter to go to Lottie Moon Christmas offering. An Old-Fashioned Gospel Sing was held under direction of Milfred Valentine, minister of music.

Since the theme for the Diamond Jubilee was "Loving Laurel for 75 Years," members demonstrated love for others in various ways, including the repairing and painting of a member's house. Ladies of the church baked cakes and took to all doctors and nurses at the hospitals, policemen, firemen, and city officials.

The senior citizens were honored on several occasions. Those over 75 received pins. Peter Grantham, 98, was crowned senior citizen king and Jessie Bush was crowned queen. Grantham is the oldest member.

Revival services were held Oct. 2-5 with former pastors, W. Levon Moore, J. C. Murphy, Tom Rayburn, and a former member, Nonnie Jefcoat, preaching and former music director,

Eugene Price, and Mike Daughtrey, assisting.

Homecoming Day, Oct. 9, climaxed the celebration. The message was brought by Jerry Oswalt, pastor. Three members were recognized: Charlie Lowe, who joined in 1909, and has the oldest membership; Mrs. Nellie Martin Crosby; and Jessie J. Bush who joined in 1911. After "dinner on the ground," a music presentation featured former musicians and vocalists.

The church was organized October 4, 1908 with 15 charter members and was named Kingston Baptist Church. The name was changed to Second Avenue Baptist Church in 1928. The first pastor was T. E. Waldrup.

Betty Ruth Martin read history highlights at homecoming. She said, "From a small beginning of 18 members in 1908, the Second Avenue Baptist Church has grown to a membership of 882-436 of these are resident members. In those 75 years, the congregation built three churches, an education building, and a Family Life Center, organized the Joe Wheeler Mission, and assisted with Wausau, Hillcrest, Pine Street, Houston Road, Trinity and Plainway Baptist Churches, and reached out to witness to the city of Laurel and surrounding area in faith and in love."

Cleveland unit ready to move

Calvary Church, Bolivar Association, Cleveland, will move Nov. 6 into a new church plant, on 205 Bishop Road. The services that day will include high attendance goals in Sunday School; morning worship with a special building fund offering to be taken; and the beginning of a revival to be led by Robert Hill, pastor of Calvary, and Mike Harland, music director.

On Nov. 13, Calvary will host an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. and on Nov. 27 the dedication service will take place. Invitations are being sent to former pastors and music directors who will have a part in the dedication program.

Wayne GAS go camping

Wayne County Girls in Action attended a day camp on Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., at Maynor Creek Water Park. The schedule included worship, Bible stories, nature study, and games.

The girls learned to start a campfire by using sawdust and melted paraffin wax. After they roasted marshmallows on the fire, they learned how to put the fire out, and later how to lay a trail and how to track.

Sack lunches were served at noon. Afterward, the girls studied Mission Adventures.

Forty-eight attended, 37 girls and 11 leaders. Mrs. William Bayne, associational GA director, planned the day's program; Mrs. Jerry Wayne Taylor is the associational WMU director.

Pray for MKs

Nov. 4—Amy Frederick, Guadeloupe, USM.

Nov. 11—Claude B. Smith, Brazil, MC.

Nov. 13—David E. Simmons, Spain, USM.



BETTY RUTH MARTIN presented highlights for Second Avenue's 75-year history. (A history of the church has been published.)

Bible Book

True to Christ's Lordship

By Harry L. Lucenay, Temple, Hattiesburg
Colossians 1:1-2:5

Paul wrote to the intimate fellowship in the Christian community in Colossae. He greeted them with the familiar Christian greeting speaking of "grace" (the well-spring of mercies to sinners) and "peace" (the calm tranquility of the soul which looks to the Lord with confidence). Naturally these blessings flow from God the Father.

The Colossians agree on the beginning of the Christian life as coming through accepting Christ as Savior. They disagree about how one effects change in the Christian life. Thus, Paul seeks to clarify the issue.

Prayer for the Lordship of Christ (1:3-14)—Paul begins his prayer by thanking God for the Colossians (3-8). The trial of "faith" (the religious dimension of Christian love which united life with Christ), "love" (the ethical dimension of Christianity which is the fruit of faith and proof of its genuineness), and "hope" (the eternal dimension of Christianity which looks to the future) is common to Paul's writings. He speaks of the fruit bearing power of the gospel wherever it is preached. Then he commends the faithful and loving ministry of Epaphras.

Paul then presents his petition (9-12). The first area of improvement on his mind is a deep and accurate comprehension of the whole counsel of God as is made known in Christ. The second area of improvement desired is the ability to apply spiritual principles to practical situations. The third area of improvement is the desire for a walk with God which exhibits continued fruitfulness, continued maturity, divine energy, and thanksgiving. This life grows out of a deep sense of recognition on the part of the Christian of his total dependence upon God.

Paul concludes the prayer with the four blessings of the Christian inheritance (12-14). First, God has qualified us to share in his inheritance. Second, he has liberated man from ignorance, falsehood, and sin. Third, he has transferred man to the rule of the Savior. Fourth, he has redeemed man (paid the price for man's sin) and forgiven man (by sending away the sin which stood as a barrier between man and God).

The Lord of the universe (1:15-17)—The nature and being of God are perfectly revealed in Christ. Christ is pre-eminent in relationship, in God's heart, in status and authority, and in responsibility. It seems that the world is a spiritual kindergarten in which confused children are all trying to

spell G-O-D with the wrong blocks. Paul is saying, "When you want to spell God, it is spelled J-E-S-U-S." Jesus is the agent and goal of creation, the source of life, center of its development, and the mainspring of its motions. All things have their meeting point, their reconciliation, in him.

Christ is the principle of cohesion in the universe. He impressed upon creation that unity and solidarity which makes it a cosmos instead of a chaos. He is the total sphere of all things continuing existence and he stands forth not only as creator but sustainer. God's beautiful touch is that he who makes all things new also makes all things meaningful.

The Lord of the church (1:18-20)—The church being the body of Christ should follow his guidance and direction and should be dominated by his Spirit. In Hebrew thought, the head governs the body, is the source of life to the body, and provides unity for the body.

The firstborn of the dead exercises supreme position and is first in time, rank, and resurrection as well as in creation.

The Lord of the Colossians (1:21-23a)—The former condition of the Colossians was one of estrangement, hostility, and evil works. But God took the initiative without waiting on men to make a move. Reconciliation came only through Christ's death. He gave his life all the way with no reservations and no limitations. Jesus demonstrated that it is possible for men to live above sin. The sinner for whom Christ died is invested through the eyes of God, with all the sacredness and value of Jesus' substitutionary sufferings and with all the righteousness of which these sufferings were an expression. He presents the Christian without blemish or accusation.

The purpose of God's reconciliation is not just to keep men out of hell, but present them holy, without imperfections or fault. Since all of man's needs are found in Christ, he is to be stable and steadfast. This refers to a foundational act in the past and that result continues to the present. Men do not "foundation" themselves—God does that might work.

This passage is rich in biblical truth. It points to one source of strength and sustenance—Jesus Christ. Paul wanted men to found their life on Christ alone. He also wanted men to understand that just as they entered the Christian life by faith, they grow in the life by faith.

Uniform

God's steadfast love

By Clarence H. Cutrell, Jackson
Psalm 103:1-22; Ephesians 1:3-10

It is impossible to think about how "God Relates to His People" without realizing that the most important factor in accomplishing and maintaining that relationship is God's steadfast love. This is a special kind of love, not the love of the flesh, the love of things, etc., about which we hear so much today. An excellent definition is found in William Evans' article, "Love," in *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, Vol. III, p. 1932, "Love, whether used of God or man, is an earnest and anxious desire for, and an active and beneficent interest in, the well-being of the one loved." What should this kind of love prompt us to do?

1. Recount his innumerable blessings (Ps. 103:1-5). In this psalm the writer rises to perhaps the most exalted praise to be found in the Bible. It is closely paralleled by Paul in the other passage for this study, Ephesians 1:3-10.

In the first five verses we hear the song of the heart exultantly calling upon his soul, or mind, his personality, his entire being to praise the Lord by remembering and recounting all of the Lord's blessings. He includes the spiritual, "he forgives all of our iniquities." The physical are recalled, "he heals all your diseases." The providential blessings are not forgotten, "he redeems your life from destruction." Multitudinous benefits seem to crowd into his thoughts simultaneously as he remembers the deeds of loving-kindness and tender mercies, too many to be counted. And putting them all together they add up to the complete fulfillment of the deepest, most earnest desires of a man's life.

Truly any believer who has tasted of the Lord and found that he is good can with great joy join in singing the great old hymn, "Count your many blessings; Name them one by one. And it will surprise you what the Lord has done." And all of this is but a peep through a keyhole at the panoramic view required for the full expression of God's steadfast love.

2. Rejoice in his mighty acts (Ps. 103:6-12). Moving from the more personal, intimate experience of the individual, the writer comes with joy to dwell upon the Lord's mighty acts in relation to the whole of society. G. Campbell Morgan in his *Notes on the Psalms*, p. 191, calls attention to the fact that "The 'my' of personal experience merges into the 'our' of social fellowship, and then culminates in the 'all' of universal consciousness." These divisions in the psalm are found

Staff Changes

Bill Crider has accepted a call as minister of education/administration for First Church, Hattiesburg. He is a native of Delhi, La., and has bachelor's and master's degrees from Northeast Louisiana State University. He attended Southwestern Seminary. He has been serving as associate director of the Sunday School Department of the Illinois Baptist Convention. Before going there, he had served as minister of education at First Church, Arcadia, La., and First Church, Tupelo.

Gayle Alexander has moved to



Tupelo, where he is the new pastor of First Church. A Tennessean, he moved there from the pastorate of First Church, Alamo, Tenn. He is a graduate of Union University and has a doctor of ministry degree from New Orleans Seminary. From 1963 until 1965 he was pastor of New Henfield Church, Picayune, Miss. All his other pastorates have been in Tennessee, where he has served in several positions on the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. He has been a professor in the Seminary Extension Department at Union University and was a writer for the Baptist Sunday School Board's Life and Work Annual, 1981. He and his wife, Kellie, have two children. Bart Shanklin has been interim minister of music at First, Tupelo, since June.

Gerald O'Dom has accepted the pastorate of First Church of Sandusky, Birmingham, Ala. He is moving from the pastorate of Pleasant Grove Church, Wayne County, Miss.

First, Anguilla sponsors Young Ins

Young Ins, a singing group comprised of 46 teen-agers from four counties and ten churches, are sponsored by First Church, Anguilla. They come from Sharkey, Yazoo, Humphreys, and Washington counties and are available for musical presentations, beginning the last week in November.

The group may be contacted through Mrs. Linda Hargrove (phone 873-2405), Box 204, Anguilla, Miss. 38721 or Mrs. Pat Bryan (phone 873-4788), Box 306, Anguilla, Miss. 38721. Although the Young Ins are from different churches, only First, Anguilla shares in the financial obligations for them.

Jimmy Dale Sartin has resigned as pastor of First, Coldwater, to accept the pastorate at Graceland Church, Memphis, Tenn.

Mark Seanor has resigned as minister of youth, First Church, McComb, to accept a similar position at First Church, West Monroe, La.

Kelly Barnett was called recently by Beech Grove Church, Union Association, as pastor. Both he and his wife, Coletti, are students at Mississippi College. They live in Clinton.

J. Carroll Farmer has accepted the staff position as minister of education and administration at Main Street Church, Hattiesburg. He has resigned as minister of education at Woodville Heights Church, Jackson.



Farmer

Pickens reaches 100th milepost

Pickens Church will celebrate its centennial Nov. 6, beginning at 11 a.m. Jimmy Furr, pastor, Calvary, Greenville, will bring the morning message. Johnny Yarborough, a Pickens native, now of New Orleans, will present an organ recital during the afternoon service.

And during the afternoon dedication service, a dedication stone will be unveiled. This marble stone has been put up to commemorate the church's 100 years of service to the Lord.

Lunch will be served at the church. Clyde E. Pullen is the pastor.

Missionary news

James and Linda Barron, missionaries to Ghana, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P. O. Box 1933, Kumasi, Ghana). He was born in Huntsville, Ala., and grew up near Clarksville, Miss. She was born in Greensboro, N.C.

John and Nell Smith, missionaries to Indonesia, may be addressed at J1. Cisingkuy 58, Bangun, Indonesia. They are natives of Brookhaven, Miss.

Devotional

The sin that causes most sadness

By J. Clark Hensley, Jackson

As we approach the annual Thanksgiving season, it is appropriate that we consider the sin that causes the most sadness: ingratitude. Children are ungrateful to their parents. Parents are ungrateful to children. Pastors do not express gratitude to their people. Church members do not thank the pastor. (He's paid, you know). Employers are ungrateful to employees. Employees do not appreciate their supervisors. Politicians are ungrateful to constituents except in election year. Citizens are ungrateful to public servants whether a president, governor, mayor, mailman, garbage collector. My brother-in-law, a gifted and highly respected surgeon in a capital city, said recently, "The garbage collector in this city is more important to the health of the city than am I." Ingratitude—the sin that causes the most sadness!

Recall the instance of Jesus healing the ten lepers. Only one returned to thank him, and Jesus asked, "Where are the nine?" Isn't that about the percentage, one time out of ten we express thanks? Our intentions are good, but time gets away. Too many pressures. Wrong priorities. We forget too soon. Amos R. Wells expressed the thoughts of one of the ten lepers. If we will open our spiritual ears, it just might speak to us. I quote in part.

*I meant to go back, but well you may guess,
I was filled with amazement I cannot express
To think that after those horrible years,
That passion of loathing and passion of fears,
My sores unendurable, eaten, defiled,
My flesh was as smooth as the flesh of a child!*

*I never supposed he would wait my return.
Just one of the ten, and would linger and yearn
As you tell me he did. Why, Luke, had I thought,
There is no one on earth I would sooner have sought.
I'd have shown him my body, all perfect and strong!
I'd have thanked him and praised him before the great throng.
I'd have followed him gladly forever and aye,
Had I thought he minded my staying away.
He so great, I so little and paltry! Alack!
Had I only gone back! Had I only gone back.*

Life and Work

Ministering to handicapped

By Larry W. Fields, Harrisburg, Tupelo
2 Samuel 9:1-3, 6-7, 9-10, 13

The last of a series of four Bible lessons on living in relationships deals with David's love and support for Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth, a handicapped person. David's close friend, Jonathan, had been killed in battle (1 Samuel 31:3). Prior to his death, David made a series of covenants with him. He would honor his part by protecting and supporting Jonathan's son. David had once been the underdog; now he was king with the power and influence to help where he desired.

Second Samuel 4:4 indicates that Mephibosheth's nurse dropped him while fleeing after Jonathan's death in battle, permanently injuring him. He was crippled for life.

(1) David's search for an heir (2 Samuel 9:1-3)

Only Jonathan's son and grandson remained alive as direct heirs to the throne once held by Saul. It was often customary in those days for a new royal family to completely eliminate descendants of a former king so as to leave no room for heirs to claim the throne.

If one did not know David's heart, they would assume that he was seeking information on the remaining remnants of Saul's family to eliminate them. Just the opposite was true.

We hear nothing about Mephibosheth from the time of his accident at age five and David's search at this time, many years later. Perhaps he was in hiding, fearing that he was a threat to the new monarch.

David traced Jonathan's family to a man named Ziba, who had served Saul. Ziba proclaimed his loyalty to the new king. David requested information about Jonathan's descendants that he might show kindness to them. Believing the king had proper motives, he revealed Mephibosheth's location, but he also reminded him that Mephibosheth was a cripple and was not a threat to David's throne. Disabled persons in those days often resorted to begging for food and provisions. Life had certainly been difficult for Mephibosheth.

(2) David's generosity for Jonathan's sake (2 Samuel 9:6-7).

David learned that Jonathan's son was living with a man named Machir, obviously a man of wealth and importance who provided a home for Saul's lame grandson.

Mephibosheth had no idea what to expect from the king. There were fear and apprehension about their meeting. He showed proper respect and humility to David by bowing and introducing

himself as a servant. He wanted to demonstrate that he posed no threat.

David was aware of the custom of eliminating heirs of a rival king and knew the young man was fearful. He called him tenderly by name and let him know that her intended to show kindness, not harm. He was doing it for Jonathan's sake. Mephibosheth had no need to be afraid.

David set a good example for the whole nation by assuming responsibility for the disabled. He was head of state and demonstrated how all should support and encourage those less fortunate.

(3.) David's provision for Mephibosheth's future (2 Samuel 9:9-10, 13)

Since David was king, he had all of Saul's property at his disposal. It cost him, but he commanded that Saul's land be given to his grandson. He also commanded the government to punish anyone who sought to take advantage of Mephibosheth's situation. David's kindness here is rooted in his covenant with Jonathan.

Since Mephibosheth was disabled and unable to work the land given him, Ziba was given the responsibility to working the land.

Mephibosheth was also invited to eat at the king's table. He had been permanently disabled, his family had been killed, and he had been stripped of his rightful inheritance. What joy and fulfillment he must have felt at these kind acts by David and well as learning about the good attributes of the father he never knew. So the story has a happy ending as David teaches us how to minister to handicapped people.

Every church would welcome people with Mephibosheth's problem, but how many unintentionally fail to provide easy access to church facilities. There are parents of handicapped or retarded children who would love the opportunity to attend a church where special classes were held to teach their children about God's love through Jesus. We must resolve to follow the teachings of Jesus (Matthew 25:31-46), where he said, "When you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me."

Time will convince even the blindest and most frivolous of us that happiness is no more to be found in the places we usually look than it is to be dug out of the earth. But the man who knows the secret of prayer lives at the top of human happiness.—William Law